

no 19
R E S T R I C T E D

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

W E E K L Y B U L L E T I N

For Period

24 March to 30 March
1946

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SECTION I

WELFARE

General

The distribution of winter clothing continues to be made by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. Additional points of distribution were investigated and in the Tokyo area is being done through the department stores. In most cases the amount of clothing distributed was not adequate because of the available supply. So far no items of clothing being distributed could be identified as Japanese navy equipment and only Japanese army material has been distributed.

Welfare Administration

A conference was held with officials of the Social Affairs Bureau, Health and Welfare Ministry, regarding matters relating to a directive (SCAPIN-775) subject, "Public Assistance". The directive requires a monthly report to be furnished on the 25th of each month beginning with March, showing the number of families and individuals granted assistance and the amount of funds expended by prefecture. Plans have been made by the Health and Welfare Ministry to furnish the information for the month of March on the 25th of April.

Effective 1 April 1946 a more detailed report will be obtained from each prefecture. The report will indicate the number of persons, male and female, who received relief under each existing relief law together with relief which was issued in kind, such as clothing and food from Japanese army and navy supplies held in reserve for relief distribution.

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SECTION II

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

General

Typhus. The typhus control programs are being continued in cities and towns having high incidence. The Epidemiologist from this Division has remained in the Osaka and Kobe areas assisting local Military Government officers in this work. The first cycle of zonal dusting has been completed in the Tokyo area and new zones and teams have been created as required for carrying on the program through the second cycle. In Yokohama control has apparently been effective to date with vaccination and focal dusting being carried out and dusting of incoming passengers at the principal railroad stations.

Typhus in Osaka. The typhus epidemic in Osaka is showing signs of abating. During the past week the average of daily incidence has been under one-hundred cases. The second cycle of dusting has been completed and the next cycle should be completed in about three days due to the decrease in the number of reported cases.

Smallpox. Smallpox incidence shows some increase in several localities. The general vaccinating program is being continued by Japanese authorities.

Sanitary Engineering

Fertilizer Production. A conference was held by the fertilizer committee on increasing the production of commercial fertilizers. The importance of immediate action was emphasized to increase the yield of this year's crops. The Industrial Division of the Economic and Scientific Section is stressing the manufacture of nitrogenous fertilizers at this time as the most readily obtainable with present equipment and stocks of raw materials.

Mosquito Control. Conferences have been held on proposed mosquito control

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programs. Those attending were: Capt. Taylor, 5th Air Force; Capt. Bryan, Chief Surgeon's Office; members of the Virus Commission; representatives of the Chief Surgeon's office and Eighth Army Surgeon's office; two entomologists from I Corps Malaria Survey Units. Methods of control to be used for the protection of occupational personnel and Japanese civilians were discussed. The need for active control programs by the Japanese is evident because of the shortage of trained and experienced personnel in the few Army Malaria Survey and Control Units remaining in this country. Japanese B encephalitis was discussed at some length and the best methods of control of this disease, as well as other mosquito-borne diseases, were considered.

Translations of Orders to Prefectures. The following are translations of instructions that were given by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs to prefectural officials. In some instances the translation is not satisfactory, particularly in paragraph 2 b (2). It is suggested that Military Government Units contact prefectural and local health enforcement authorities to see that they have received these instructions and to exercise surveillance over their execution.

Translation of Order for Improvement of Sanitation
from Ministry of Health to Prefectures

- I -

Director of Health Bureau.
Director of Prevention Bureau
for Infectious Diseases.

TO: Prefectural Governors.

Notification to Improve the Sanitation of Cities and Towns for the Prevention of Diseases.

Various measures recently taken for the clean-up of towns and cities are not satisfactory. This is regrettable not only from the point of view of beauty of the community, but also because of the present danger from diseases being brought to this country by repatriates. The season is close at hand when the dangers from mosquito-borne and enteric diseases will be very great. Therefore

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it is necessary to take preventive measures at once and enforce all sanitary laws immediately that living conditions may be improved and everything possible be done to prevent disease.

- II -

Chief of Health Division.
Chief of Prevention Section
for Infectious Diseases.

TO: Director of Public Welfare of Tokyo;
Chief of Home Division of Prefectures;
Education and Welfare;
Metropolitan Police.

Improvement of Sanitation of Cities and Towns.

As notified this day by Directors of the Bureau of Health and Prevention Bureau of Infectious Diseases; all laws regarding the above subject shall be enforced. The following items are noted for carrying out the public health and sanitation program in all cities and towns:

1. Arrangements shall be made for the complete collection and transportation of nightsoil, rubbish, and other waste products.
 - a. Although a complete sewerage system is the ideal aim, for the time being every public organization will strengthen personnel, transporting equipment, and other facilities as necessary to remove night soil, garbage, and refuse.
 - b. Every town assembly, neighborhood association, and similar organization will clean their environs, drains, and graveyards. This will be done thoroughly in accordance with the laws for the prevention of infectious diseases. Every public agency will enforce these laws explicitly.
 - c. Those who use the nightsoil and other waste products will be required to properly store and distribute this material in a sanitary manner so as not to cause fly breeding or pollution of streams.
 - d. Latrines and nightsoil storage vaults will be so constructed as not to provide a place for fly breeding. Petroleum emulsion will be used as required to prevent fly breeding. Adequate storage will be provided in all vaults and they will be constructed so as to be fly tight.
 - e. (Not translatable)
 - f. Public agencies will provide for an adequate number of public latrines in suitable locations.
2. Proper care will be taken or disposition made of all water tanks and containers for fire protection, and other standing water.
 - a. In so far as possible all existing collections of water will be eliminated, leaving only minimum number necessary for fire protection. Where

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possible fire water holes will be filled or drained so as not to collect rain water.

b. The remaining necessary collections of water for fire protection will be treated to prevent mosquito breeding by the responsible individuals or agencies in the following manner:

- (1) Change the water periodically (generally once a week) using care that larvae do not remain on the inside surface of the container.
- (2) Treat the water with larvicide.
 - (a) Petroleum or petroleum emulsion; 10 grams per square meter, or enough to form an oil film on the surface. (Heavier oils will require a larger quantity.)
 - (b) Paris green or Phenothiazine; Dilute 1:50 with rice-bran or dust, using 1 cc for 10 sq. meters of surface area.
 - (c) Pyrethrum: Use 2 grams once or twice a month on 10 square meters surface area.
 - (d) Bleaching powder: At least 40 grams for 10 square meters surface area.
 - (e) Bleaching powder: At least 100 grams for 10 square meters surface area.
 - (f) 3% liquid kresoleum mykosol may be used as a substitute for the above.
- (3) Fish may be used in basins and pools, gibel, goldfish, killifish, top minnow, etc., 2 killifish or 1 gibel to 1 liter of water.

c. Town Assemblies and Neighborhood Associations will clean and grade drains as required to remove all stagnant water.

d. Town Assemblies and Neighborhood Associations, with the cooperation of school boy and young men's associations if required, will pump out standing water, fill, grade, and ditch as necessary to eliminate collections of water.

e. The cemetery is an important breeding place for mosquitoes, Temples or shrines or public bodies responsible for them, will clean vases, offering tables, etc. Where possible it is desirable to fill these with sand to eliminate these mosquito breeding places.

Laboratory Service

Reform of Medical Education. The fifth formal meeting of the Council on

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Medical Education was devoted to organization matters. In order to facilitate the work of the Council and expedite its program, subcommittees were designated for the most pressing tasks. These included subcommittees on curriculum, school inspection, textbook revision, national licensure examination, internships, and postgraduate medical training.

Penicillin. Standardization tests of Japanese produced penicillin have progressed to a sufficient extent to permit the Japanese to place their product on the market. Instructions as to content of each package, labeling, price, and testing of each lot are being formulated to send to the Japanese Ministry.

Nutrition Service

Personnel. Captain Agnes R. O'Donnel, HD, reported for duty 23 March 1946 as Assistant Nutrition Consultant. Capt. O'Donnel will give particular attention to nutrition in hospitals.

Nutrition Surveys. The Nutrition Consultant accompanied the Food Mission sent from the United States 20-26 March 1946 to obtain information with regard to the nutritional status of the areas visited. In all cases the general health of the people, as it might be affected by nutrition, was good. There had not been any general serious reduction in body weight. Nutrition problems of the areas were discussed with the Public Health officials of the prefectures visited.

New Nutrition Surveys. Plans for the nutrition surveys to be conducted in May were discussed with Dr. T. Oiso of the Ministry of Health. The surveys will include four new areas - Tohoku, Hokuriku, Shikoku and Hokkaido. During the surveys, a total of 148,000 persons will be given physical examinations and the food consumed by 14,700 families in three days will be determined. The results of the surveys will be summarized to give the average quantities of the major groups of food consumed per capita.

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SECTION III

ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS

The report of the bed capacity of Japanese civilian hospitals, for period ending 8 March, shows 2,973 hospitals with 203,442 beds of which 95,469 were occupied.

SECTION IV

NURSING AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

Educational Council. The first meeting of the Educational Council was held on 25 March 1946 to discuss standards for the training program for nurses and midwives. The group was very alert and interested. Two committees were appointed and plans were discussed regarding the purpose of the Council and the goals to be accomplished. The next meeting will be held 11 April 1946.

Inspection Trip

A three-day institute was held at Tokoku Imperial University in Sendai and this office was represented. A speech was made by the representative on public health nursing in America. Several hospitals were visited and a conference was held with the Japanese prefectural doctor. He promised to help the nurses get supplies for their work in Sendai.

Supply

A number of books, pamphlets and charts on nursing affairs have come to this Division from the U. S.

SECTION V

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

General

A survey of Japanese veterinary affairs in southern Kyushu is still in progress and is being made by a representative from the Veterinary Affairs Division.

Reports from Japanese

Animal Disease Reports. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Animal

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Disease Section, reported two new cases of blackleg in Nagasaki Prefecture.

Control measures are immunization, quarantine and disinfection.

SECTION VI

DENTAL AFFAIRS

No report.

SECTION VII

SUPPLY

Production

Action has been taken to increase the production of DDT dusting powder from Japanese facilities. At the instigation of SCAP the Field Service Division, Office of the Quartermaster, Eighth Army, set up a program during January for the mixing of DDT concentrate with indigenous talcum. Considerable difficulty was experienced with the mining operation and as a result production has been limited. The large consumption of dusting powder during the last two months for typhus control has made it necessary to expedite local production until additional DDT may be received from the United States. At a conference held with representatives of the Eighth Army, Office of the Quartermaster, AFPAC, USA Typhus Commission, Natural Resources Section and Public Health and Welfare Section, it was decided to direct the Japanese Talcum Association to expedite movement of talc to the Tokyo area. A qualified officer will be assigned to the mixing plant to supervise and expedite production and efforts will be made to locate additional plant facilities.

Distribution

An additional 15,000 vials of typhus vaccine was released to the Japanese Ministry of Health and Social Affairs for distribution to ports in Japan to

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be used in vaccinating repatriates. Small amounts from Japanese production also have been released to ports.

Upon request of this Division the Ministry of Health and Welfare has dispatched telegraphic instructions to Aomori, Akita, Iwate and Fukushima Prefectures directing immediate distribution of an additional fifty percent of Japanese army and navy medical supplies. A report was received from IX Corps stating that those prefectures were withholding distribution pending further instructions from the Ministry. The Ministry recently held meetings in districts throughout Japan on this subject and reported that detailed instructions had been issued for immediate distribution. Upon investigation by a representative of Public Health and Welfare Section it was learned that prefectural officials were still of the opinion that further instructions would be forthcoming. The above incident is an illustration of the delays that are apt to occur in the operation of the distribution system. It is apparent that close supervision must be exercised by Occupation Force personnel to insure expeditious action.

Additional deliveries of typhus and cholera vaccine were made to the Uraga Reception Center for shipment to Chinese ports in connection with the repatriation program.

Major Cannon departed on a field trip to Kyoto, Osaka, Okayama and Kure for the purpose of observing distribution activities.

Narcotics

In a conference on the reorganization of the Japanese Narcotic Enforcement Agency, Japanese officials stated that they plan to have approximately 156 pharmacists in the field working as narcotic inspectors. It was agreed that the first stage of enforcement in Japan will necessarily be an educational

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program for the proper use and handling of narcotics. An outline of the plan of organization setting forth the duties and responsibilities of the various echelons of enforcement will be submitted to this Division.

SECTION VIII

LEGAL

No report.

SECTION IX

DIRECTIVES TO JAPANESE

No directives were issued by this section to the Japanese Government during the week.

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Crawford F. Sams
CRAWFORD F. SAMs,
Colonel, Medical Corps,
Chief, Public Health and Welfare Section.

INCL: Report, Communicable Disease, 16 March
Report, Venereal Disease, 9 March.

Inclosures missing